THE SOUTH.

Interesting Records of Herald Special Correspondents.

Politics, Parties, Poverty and Perils of the People.

The Inhabitants Subdued, but Sullen.

&c. &c. &c.

TENNESSEE.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE HERALD.

The Political Situation—The Struggle for Supremacy—Prospects of the Parties, &c.

NASHVILLE, April 25, 1867.

Nashville contains a population of about thirty-five thousand inhabitants, or ten thousand more than the city of Atlanta. At present this city, like the whole State, is aroused from centre to circumference by controversies between the radicals and conservatives, which each party holds to be of a vital character. The election is to come off on the 1st of August next, which will leave ample time for the full growth of malignant passions, which party discussions are apt to engender. On the radical side of the controversy power is at stake, and the party has taken all precautionary measures to continue their existence in the State. On the conservative side franchise is at stake, which is the right of those that live in a representative government and have not lost it by fair and just enactments of law. The present chief Executive of the State of Tennessee is represented, by those who know him best, as a man possessed of many amiable and charitable virtues. It is only when he is arrayed against his enemies that he is to be dreaded. The Legislature which did his bidding, and which has just gone out of favor, may or may not have been actuated by the desire to promote the good of the State by their wholesale disfranchisement of all engaged in the rebellion, and their complete enfranchisement of all negro men. If such a desire controlled them in their action it is to be presumed that proper repentance on the part of the disfranchised, and evidence of their good citizenship, would lead to the removal of the restriction which the law contemplates to be perpetual. But some considerations lead one to the belief that the disfranchisement of the rebels and the enfranchisement of the negroes were precautionary measures for the continuation in power of a corrupt party. Four journals in the city (one of them German) support Etheridge for Governor; but one supports Brownlow for that office. The conservative papers and orators openly charge upon the radicals of the last Legislature with appropriating to their own use about $345,000 of the public school fund of the State. Greater credit has been given to the charge since the Treasurer of the State, R. L. Stanford, resigned his office when the fact of the embezzlement of the funds became known to the public, went into aberation of mind, and within the last week ended his life by his own hands with an "overdose of laudanum."

The money is lost to the State, and the party could not stand a moment in the estimation of honorable white men were suffrage free. The blacks, however, not being used to questions of this kind, and being promised forty acres of land when rebel land is confiscated, and threatened with re-enslavement if they vote the conservative ticket, are in danger of voting almost in an entire body the radical ticket. The conservatives selected a standard bearer whose record on emancipation was good enough, but who unfortunately had made use the past year of some very foolish expressions in regard to the validity of the emancipation act and the employment of negro soldiers by the government, which it would have been better for his cause had he never uttered. These sayings of Etheridge are kept standing in capitals at the head of the editorial columns of the radical journal. But if Etheridge has made use of one foolish expression, Brownlow's record shows many such. Etheridge, however, is a good orator and shifty politician, and may know how to nullify the effects of his injudicious remarks.

Such is the State of the question in the gubernatorial contest, so far as I am able to ascertain after industrious search. On which side victory will perch I am unable to decide. The State will be distracted by a contest of a magnitude and importance greater than any other State of the Union has ever seen. Better would it have been for Tennessee had her reconstruction and restoration waited, and eventually taken place in the same manner in which that of her partners in the rebellion is expected to occur. From a free intermingling with the people I find in this city no white radicals. The number of that class of radicals is thought, by those best competent to judge, to be not more than one tenth of the voters, or at the highest not more than one-sixth.

The city of Nashville is visited at the present time by a considerable number of persons from Georgia, asking aid in behalf of the indigent of that State. To these requests the city has nobly responded. The war reduced many of the wealthy citizens of Nashville to comparative poverty, but with an energy that deserves all commendation and encouragement they are going earnestly to work to repair their wasted fortunes. The negroes seem to be working cheerfully. I have noticed since my arrival in the city a considerable number of United States soldiers. The people do not raise the least objection to their presence; on the contrary they are welcomed to the city in the present state of political excitement.

The Governor is at present on a visit to Knoxville. The beautiful Capitol of the State is now completed. The grounds around it need a large expenditure of money to ornament them. A full size portrait of General Thomas is in the library, in company with the distinguished men of Tennessee. Enlistment of negro soldiers goes on in the city with great success. They enlist with the expectation on their part of going out against the Indians.

The canvass begins next Saturday with the blacks. A distinguished conservative orator from Nashville is to address the colored people of Winchester next Saturday.

ARKANSAS.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE HERALD.

Arkansas Post—Its Past History and Present Condition—The Interior of the Country—Wretched Poverty of the Inhabitants, &c.

ARKANSAS POST, April 22, 1867.

The New Zealander has not yet stood on London Bridge and looked on the ruined remains of the English capital, and it may be a long time before he enacts in the British metropolis a repetition of Marius at the ruins of Carthage. If this representative of the New Zealand district is, however, on his travels in quest of grand old ruins, I would recommend him to pay a flying visit to this locality. Arkansas Post in its melancholy decadence, in the magnificence of lost arts, in the extent and grandeur of desolation, may not compare with ancient Rome, or Herculaneum, or Pompeii, but there is abundant ruminating material on which to chew the cud of lively fancy for some time. It was here the first settlement was made in Arkansas by the French in 1685—a settlement contemporaneous with that of Pennsylvania by William Penn—and it was here, amid a dense wilderness and hostile Indians, were planted on the Arkansas river the earliest seeds of civilization by the white man. It was here also, by trading in furs with the wild sons of the forest, John Jacob Astor helped to lay the foundation of his vast fortune, and it was also here when Arkansas became a Territory of the United States, was established the headquarters of the territorial government. The surrounding country was taken up and cultivated by large planters. The choicest society of the Territory centred here. When the Territory became a State, and the capital was removed to Little Rock, a change came over the spirit of its dream, its prestige was gone. Politicians and business men, the beauty and fashion of the place retired with the retiring government. The hotels became vacant, the fine dwellings tenantless, the streets deserted. Oliver Goldsmith would have found here a most touching theme for his melancholy muse—a counterpart to his Deserted Village. What is the town to-day? Moss covered walls, weather stained archways, mournful looking chimneys, scattered fragments of brick, cellars that once may have been deep, but now are shallow, linear formations of wells and cisterns, and old gardens in which are struggling into bloom the early spring flowers and scraggy peach trees, are all that remain of the ancient town. What the desolating hand of time did not lay waste, the late war did. There are now only two houses in the place, the first a large unpainted frame building, near the river, and used severally as a dwelling, hotel, warehouse, store and barber shop, and the latter a smaller building farther back, in which lives a small farmer and several small children. Shakspeare instances securing "a local habitation and a name" as of very difficult and meritorious accomplishment; but here, as can be seen, notwithstanding the combined ravages of time and grim-visaged war, the ancient name is still preserved, and with it two local habitations.

A temporary addition to the town are three army wall tents, which are occupied by Mr. Jones and some workmen engaged in disinterring Union soldiers who fell in the battle of January 11, 1863, fought here between Generals McClernand and Churchill, and resulting as will be remembered in the capture of almost the entire of the latter's army. A large number of those buried died while stationed here on garrison duty. Some were buried so near the river that during a late freshet portions of the bank in giving way left exposed jutting out the side their lower extremities. On this account it was decided to remove all the bodies, and they are accordingly being taken to Fine Bluff, for reinterment in a cemetery purchased by the government for the purpose.

Not desiring to take wholly the statements of persons sojourning or stationed here regarding the political sentiments of the people living in the vicinity, I obtained a horse and road out some fifteen miles into the country. My ostensible purpose was to look at the land with a view to buying and settling if I could find a place to suit me. My ride took me into a decidedly bleak looking country, the ground unbrokenly level and monotonous, the road winding among dark pine trees, penetrating cotton fields, and then suddenly skirting long stretches of cane brakes; the houses wide apart and solitary; the few people to be seen of thin and emaciated appearance and most poorly clad—a road in gloom and solitariness, bearing striking resemblance to the Campagna Romana leading out of Rome, but with no compensating reflection of the propinquity of the Eternal City. The only compensation was in the pines, and these were truly magnificent, large, tall and stately, the lowest branches of some being sixty and seventy feet from the ground, and the soft murmuring of the wind stirring their leaves, as deeply musical as the distant roar of the ocean, only a lower and fainter anthem of nature, more softening and subduing in its effect on the feelings and imagination. My course led me into a tongue of prairie land, beginning at Arkansas Post, where it is about two miles wide, and gradually widening until it reaches the Indian Territory, where it is over fifty miles in width. It is several feet higher than the bottom lands on either side and never overflows. The soil is thin, and what is here called crawfishy, and will not produce more than a third bale of cotton, or twenty bushels of corn to the acre, while the bottom lands will yield a bale and a third of cotton and seventy bushels of corn to the acre. Any quantity of it can be bought at a dollar an acre, and for the best improved portions only five dollars per acre is asked. Large sections have already been forfeited by the original owners through non-payment of taxes.

All the people settled and living here look alike. Every old man is the exact counterpart of another, and so the younger men and so the women and children. Poverty, ignorance and wretchedness are their ruling trinity. A fraternity of squalor and abject misery is their abiding bond of brotherhood. Schools there are none. Churches are unknown. Like dumb driven cattle they plod their way, goaded on to continuous toil and one unending struggle for the barest necessities of life. My first encounter of any human being was a man driving four yoke of oxen before a wagon containing a bale of cotton and some wood. The wagon looked as though it had gone through the wars, and the oxen were the most lean, meagre specimens of the bovine species I think I ever saw. The man was tall and slim, and certainly fifty years old, although he might have been twenty years older, for it is impossible to guess the age of this class of people in this country. He wore a faded gingerbread coat and pants, which clung about his slim limbs with a friendly closeness that was truly touching—for they certainly touched him all over—and his hat, whatever its original color may have been, was now a muddy brown, as likewise were his beard and hair.

"How far am I from Arkansas Post?" I asked by way of opening a conversation.

"Whoa," he called out to his oxen, a mandate they readily obeyed, and then answered:—"Six miles by that ar hoss, but dod rot furder by these ere oxen," and he opened his mouth with an expressive grin suggestive of the martin jaws of a pleased alligator.

"Any tavern near here where I can get dinner for myself and horse?" I next inquired.

"Not that I knows of, and I reckon I orter know, for I've lived in these 'ere parts all my born days. Nary 'commodation for yerself or hoss till yer reach the Helena forks. Can't yer give feller chaw'r tobaccer?"

"I don't chaw."

"What! don't chawer?"

"No; I have no small vices."

"Big plugs, and don't like to cut 'em, eh? Can't you spare one chawer? I'm awful put to it; ain't had a chawer for a week and mo', and shan't get none till I sell this 'ere cotton and wood."

"I have got no tobacco, or I would give you some cheerfully," I explained to him. "Do you know any one about here who has got any land to sell?"

"No need buying land here, stranger; jes. settle anywhar, and if yer doesn't starve to deth or die of the ager befo' the owner finds you out you've only to pay the taxes and the land is yourn, and plagey dear at that."

"But I am a Northern man; would I be disturbed?"

"Well, I reckon you'd be by muskeeters and bars from the bottoms and the ager, but in no order way, 'cept raising any rite smart of crop, and that would disturb you a mighty heap."

"Are not the people about here down on the Yankees?"

"Not by tarnation sight. I fought agin 'em 'cause I had ter. I know'd the war was no good, and everybody is a heap wuss off now than they war afore, and I wanted to tell 'em so, but it warn't no use; and then if I had I'd found myself mo' likely than lotherwise hanging from a pine limb with no ground to stand on. They served one of my neighbors so, but I know'd too much for 'em. When they cum arter me I went without opening my jawer, but I never fought right smart, I tell yer."

"So you are a good Union man?"

"I reckon I is and allers war. I'se poor, and that 'counts for 't I'spose. The rich fellers and big politicianers bro't on the war and I'se right glad they got licked. Sarve 'em right if they had their turn hanging now—drat 'em all."

"You have heard, I suppose, of the military government recently established over the rebel states and of the government plans for readmitting them to the Union?"

"I've heern tell about 'em down to the Post, but I doesn't bother my head much about it. I'm only glad the d—d cusses that fetched on the war are gittin under and that Uncle Sam's on top. It 'll do 'em good to squirm. Uncle Sam 'll keep on top, I reckon; I'm gwine to trust him, eny how."

"Do I understand that all your neighbors are Union men?"

"Yes, thar's one who ain't. He lives near Helena Forks. He is so mean he can't raise no crop, no how, and the only thing he can raise is his dander, when he sees a Union man, and a mighty barking of his pesky dogs. I tell ye jest how mean he is. Whiskey won't make him drunk, and if we should tie him all over with hog grease an inch thick, a bar wouldn't touch him."

My honest, but communicative friend, would, doubtless, have talked with me till this time had I chosen to continue my questions, but thanking him for his information—and it was just the information touching the poor white people of the State, when uttered by honest mouths and from honest hearts, I had looked for—and wishing him good luck in the sale of his cotton and wood, I resumed my journey and he his. He told me, however, that on a full bale of cotton taken to Arkansas Post for shipment to New Orleans they were charged about $16 for taxes and tags, which, with the commissions and other expenses, as I gathered, left the producer about twenty-five per cent out on his cotton from its actual quoted value. Riding onward through a region gradually becoming bleaker and more poverty stricken, until at length it became as bare and desolate as I have ever imagined any Scottish moors to be, I stopped at a house by the road side. There was a clearing of about two acres around the shanty, but no sign of fence. A litter of pigs actively employed extracting pabulum from the breasts of their maternal progenitor, a brood of chickens, a feeble dog who feebly tried to bark, and the faces of some half a dozen squalid looking children congregated at the door, were the preliminary objects of observation. Built of unhewn logs, with the mud between them nearly all fallen out, of very scanty size, not being more than sixteen feet square, the chimney nearly as far from a plumb line as the tower of Pisa, and not a pane of glass visible, the shanty did not present a very encouraging picture outside. Passing the portal showed no improvement, but much worse, for outside there was the bright sunshine, clear and beautiful sky, majestic pines and pure air, while here it was confined and dismal, filthy and redolent of most nauseating odors. One whole side was occupied by the fireplace, of size large enough to cook an ox. In one corner of this fireplace—and, the only redeeming feature of this miserable hovel, a cheerful fire blazing on the hearth—sat a man about forty, himself worn almost to a shadow and his clothes worn to the third and fourth patchings. He proved to be the father of the family and master of the house, though not master of the situation. An ague chill was on him, or perhaps he might have given me a warm reception. His wife, who did not look a whit stronger, did her best to make amends. A large bed with a dirty coverlet, which hid the pillows, if there were any, filled one corner opposite the fireplace. Underneath this was a trundle bed, and the balance of the space occupied as a general storeroom. A large and dilapidated bureau, a very shaky looking table, a cupboard without doors and showing on the shelves a very slim assortment of principally fractured crockery and broken iron pots, a cracked looking glass and five chairs, in painfully rickety condition, comprised the rest of the furniture. A lithograph likeness of George Washington, showing a very woebegone as well as dirty face for George, hung by the looking glass. On the bureau was a Bible, hymn book and copy of "Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress"—a meagre stock of literary wealth, but even this beyond the reach of the family, as not one of them could read. The up stairs part, the only second room in the shanty, and reached by a ladder, served as the sleeping room for the larger children. Giving my conversations with these people and those of other similar shanties which I visited would impart nothing of special interest. The man I have described, from fear and compulsion, fought on the rebel side during the war. His impoverished, ignorant and enfeebled condition however, have not stupified and stultified him to that degree that he does not know what it is to be a Union man, and as chance offers to speak out his long pent-up reverence for a soul's fidelity to the Stars and Stripes. These people are to be pitied. Their poverty and ignorance make them proper subjects of commiseration. Before the war, as the poor white trash of the South, they were steeped in poverty. They are much worse off now, when all the South are suffering from depleted resources. Let those of the rich and prosperous North who are in the habit of giving yearly thousands to the Timbuctoo or other foreign humbug missions, remember the Union poor of the South. My ride gave me new ideas as to the condition of the extreme poor of the South, but I was glad to get back to the advanced civilization of even Arkansas Post. Since my return I have been over the Arkansas Post battle ground. The turned up furrows reveal but little of the fight. A few trees show still the scarred marks of shell, and broken fences and walls proclaim the scenes of the most desperate struggles. Even these remains of the conflict a short lapse of time will wholly obliterate.

MISSISSIPPI.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE HERALD.

The Military Bill—Fears of Confiscation, &c.

MERIDIAN, Miss., April 22, 1867.

Leaving Jackson, my way lay through Vicksburg, and thence it extended to this town, which manifests a purpose of becoming a thriving place some day.

The measures of Congress continue to be acknowledged topics of conversation. Here, in fact, there is no unwillingness to consider any subject that the political situation of the country makes interesting. All discussions have been, so far, in a remarkably calm spirit; but there is no expressed favor for the Reconstruction law—that is, no admission that there is any humanity or justice in it. Congress is charged with being unwilling to encourage even the good disposition of the South in view of reconstruction. It is urged that the Southern people have so certainly that, if they reconstruct on the prescribed form, they will be again received. They expect new exactions—new humiliations. Still they accede to the law in effect. They are so far advanced as to feel that they cannot get by it, and the best policy is to go to meet their fate. But the new law is not, in this vicinity, so interesting a consideration as the threat of confiscation. They do not view the military bill as affecting their material prosperity immediately; while the fear of confiscation is an actual destroyer of confidence. People who have gold or money deposited abroad, as some have, will not invest it here and render it liable to the provisions of the proposed Confiscation act. This is a great blow to the lately reviving trade, and comes fatally to those who were struggling in embarrassed circumstances before, and adds to the number of the absolutely destitute, which has been great since the close of the war. The peace was too late in 1865 to admit of a proper cultivation of the farms and plantations for that year. Then came the failure of the crops in the year following. Meanwhile they who had expectations more than anticipated them, and when they had realized their crops were still in debt. Now credit is harder than before on account of the confiscation panic. It seems, also, that the destruction of the fruit prospects by the late frosts is going to be sorely felt, as one means of subsistence gone, although in prosperous times it was not an important consideration. Particularly will this be the case with bereaved families, women and children made widows and orphans by the late war, of whom there are many living in this neighborhood, and still farther back, away from the routes of travel. Many of these are quite destitute, and depend upon charity alone, while others had little to expect but what their fruit might afford; and now the hope of that is gone.

The story told here has not been, on the whole, a cheering one. The conversation last night in the office of the hotel struck a doleful chord, and the miseries of the past, as well as the present, came back in bitter memories. They who joined in it—and they were decidedly of the superior class—seemed disposed to nurse their own particular recollections of trial and suffering, and to give everybody else a fair chance. It is aside from the purpose to relate what they had to say about the defeat of this and that general. It is enough to remark they fought their battles o'er again. What made their conversation worth naming was, that they one and all had a feeling of pity to express for the Andersonville prisoners. One of them, who was chief speaker, and who seems to have been more than once called upon to defend his people from the charge of cruelty, admitted all the suffering alleged to have been endured by these poor unfortunates, not referable to design on the part of their keepers. Perhaps it would be more correct to say on the part of the Confederate government; for I noticed he was silent in regard to the prison keepers. He pointed to the destitution of the South—to the condition of their soldiers, ill-fed and barely clothed, and asked how they were to help the suffering of their prisoners. "But a fearful crime," he said, "lies at some one's door, I freely admit, and I believe that it could have been prevented by an exchange of prisoners. Whoever stood in the way of that must answer for the crime," giving it to be pretty well understood who he thought was to blame. By way of seasoning these black and bitter memories, much praise was bestowed upon the federal government for the good treatment received by the prisoners who fell into the hands of our army, and a pleasant story or two was told of those bright little episodes in the midst of war, of a cessation of hostilities, where everything was most hostile, in the trenches and on the picket line, where little treaties, made by a sign, but perfect for all that and seldom broken, brought about an exchange of civilities and all the joys of peace for the space of an hour or over the extent of a hundred square yards. For those soldiers with whom they had thus come in contact they entertained a lively regard, and I could readily believe that they would meet them again with pleasurable emotion.

It was in men of this temper that we appeared to have our chief dependence at the close of the war; but another class for a time usurped their places. Indeed we are expressly told that the men who submitted to the arbitrament of arms, and finally at the decision against them laid their arms aside, have not mingled much in public affairs. Again they are coming from their retirement, and, it is to be hoped, the reappearance is a good omen, as they are the least prejudiced of the Southern people. Little is to be expected of merely provincially educated men, who are alive to none but local needs. Neither in the North nor the South can they do anything to reconcile the differences that distract the land. It is the former class alone that show themselves capable of considering the national life as a thing apart from the existence of its members, and it is chiefly they who see the necessity of heeding the deliberations of its councils. By such men you hear it admitted that the abolition of slavery is advantageous, in some respect, to labor, although at the same time they are adverse to all the innovations that come in its train; but accepting the one, they are willing calmly to consider the feasibility of the others. One feels on common ground with such people, and it does not appear a vain hope that with the aid of their counsel all may be well.

THE NATIONAL BANK SYSTEM.

The First Smash-Up Down South—Further Danger Ahead.

[From the New Orleans Times, April 25.]

The National Bank system has received a pretty severe shock from the recent development at Selma, Alabama. It is the first decided knock-down in this section that the hazardous system has received. The vices which are laid bare by this explosion we fear will be found to pervade the whole scheme, and to affect, more or less, all similar institutions. Forced upon the country by great exigencies—established upon bases which the experience of two hundred years has proved to be utterly fallacious—without adequate checks or restraints—it is only necessary that a time of financial pressure should be applied to explode the entire system.

The Selma affair develops the following alarming facts:—That the deposit of the United States funds in these banks is not only unsafe, eminently dangerous, but is a temptation and inducement to reckless expansion and speculation, which must result in great loss the government, in general commercial and financial disasters, and in corruption and demoralization of the officers of the government. All that used to be said of the demoralizing character of any connection of the finances and financial agents of the government with banks is now fully realized. The managers of these banks are everywhere cheek by jowl with the Treasury agents and depositories. The banks are often convenient to the so-called office of the United States Treasury. In these high-priced times salaries of office do not afford luxuries, and people who handle large amounts of money have a wish for luxuries. Why should not the government agents receive a share of the interest on the loan of the government funds, especially as the government gets none? Are men who labor for their country, and whose political status is unexceptionable, to be excluded from all the chances of legitimate speculation? Is all the profit from the loans of government funds to be divided among the stockholders of the bank, who, alas! in too many cases, as in the Selma bank case—the First National of that city—never paid a cent for their stock? If the government is generous enough, besides giving eighteen millions a year for the benefit of the National Bank currency, in the form of interest on the bonds given as security for their issue, to allow these banks the use of its deposits without charge, it is no reason why we officials should, in the exercise of our choice of a bank of deposits, receive no consideration therefor.

In these not very scrupulous times this process of reasoning is a natural and logical one, and has probably prevailed elsewhere besides Selma. It is not a bad understanding, so far as the government depositors are concerned. They have no risk. They have only exercised their discretion. If the bank should be badly managed, should ever trade, should expand beyond its means and suddenly encounter a crisis and tumble into ruin, it is not their fault. After all, too, the government loses no more than the other depositors. And is not the government a proper person to lose through banks it has itself established and put into operation, and in whose favor it has enacted laws to extinguish all other banks, to exclude all competition with its own protégés? But the subject is far too large and pregnant to be disposed of in the brief space we can now command. We propose to resume at some other time our investigation into and exposure of the present condition and operation of the last modern banking bubble.

The Mechanics' Bank of Baltimore Embezzlement Case—A Plea of Guilty Entered by one of the Accused.

The two cases of Samuel H. Wentz and John H. Rogers, indicted by the Grand Jury of the United States District Court for embezzling the funds of the National Mechanics' Bank of Baltimore, were taken up for trial on Monday last in the United States District Court. Messrs. George W. Dobbin and Henry F. Garey acted as counsel for Wentz. Messrs. Wm. Schley and Milton Whitney for Rogers, while Messrs. Theo. B. Horwitz, counsel for the bank, A. Sterett Ridgely, Esq., District Attorney, and James A. L. McClure, Esq., Assistant District Attorney, appeared for the prosecution. Immediately upon the calling of the court, Mr. Garey arose and read a statement drawn up with great care, in which Wentz plead guilty and throws himself upon the mercy of the court.

Judge Giles, in response to the counsel, said that he would be governed in his judgment by the facts which would be brought out on the trial of John H. Rogers. The further consideration of the case was postponed for the day.

The indictment against Rogers contains five counts; first, charging that on the 24 of February, 1867, he embezzled $6,000 of the funds of the National Mechanics' Bank, designing thereby to injure said bank; the second, charging that on the 24 of February he did abstract the said sum of $6,000 of the funds of said bank; the third, charging that he wilfully misapplied the moneys of said bank; fourth, charging that he, being a teller in said bank, did make a false entry in a book of said bank, called "Paying Teller's Settlement Book," from Thursday, November 22, to February 26, 1867, inclusive, of "Adams C. $2,000," with intent to defraud said bank and deceive the cashier, Charles R. Coleman; and fifth, that on the 24 February he did make a false entry as aforesaid, with intent to deceive the agent appointed by the Comptroller of the Currency, with the approbation of the Secretary of the Treasury. By the act of Congress regulating national banks, &c., the offence above stated is a misdemeanor, and as such, upon conviction, the party is liable to imprisonment in the Penitentiary for a term not exceeding ten nor less than five years. Rogers, the party indicted, was in court yesterday with his counsel. He is at present under $10,000 bail.

BURIED COUNTERFEIT BANK NOTE PLATES DISCOVERED.—A man who was digging in a lot in Paterson brought to light thirty-one copper plates on various banks. Each plate was carefully wrapped up in a separate piece of paper, and the whole was labelled "1856." On nearly all of them the amount of the note is left blank, so that the plates could be used for any denomination. They are all on State, and mostly on New England, banks. The *Press* says that last summer the chase was pretty hot in that vicinity for counterfeiters, and the plates may have been hidden away at the time, or the engraver or owner may have put them there for safe keeping, and may himself have been sent to Trenton or Sing Sing for safe keeping; or, finding the plates on State banks no longer of use, the owner may have buried them as the simplest way of disposing of them.—*Trenton Gazette, April 26.*

THE UNITED STATES SCHOOL SHIP SABINE.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE HERALD.

The Inauguration of the System of Naval Apprenticeship, and its Marked Success—The Boys on Board—Their Daily Studies and Duties—List of Officers and Instructors—Regulations for the Enlistment and Government of Apprentice Boys, &c.

NEW LONDON, Conn., April 29, 1867.

The United States school ship Sabine, stationed in this harbor, has "broke out of her winter quarters," and her able seamen, under the direction of her experienced officers, have been busily engaged in putting the gallant old vessel in trim for the more active and practical duties of the spring and summer. Notwithstanding her superior officers assured me the vessel was all in confusion, consequent upon this procedure, her decks and multiplied paraphernalia were a miracle of neatness and regularity.

The apprentice system, so auspiciously inaugurated and successfully carried out on board of this ship, was formally commenced in obedience to an act of Congress dated March 2, 1837, but, after many disappointments, was abandoned six years subsequent thereto, and was not revived until the year 1864. In May of that year the naval ship Sabine was ordered to be put in commission as a practice and school ship for naval apprentices, under the command of then Lieutenant Commander, R. B. Lowry, United States Navy, who was especially selected by the Department at Washington for the very important, arduous and delicate duty of organizing and establishing on a firm basis the nucleus from which the rank and file of our future naval force was to emanate, in such a manner as not only to be reliable at all times, but of a character which would place our ships of war upon an equal, if not superior footing to those of any other naval power.

But the visits of the Tallahassee and other piratical craft of the Southern confederacy to the waters of the eastern coast caused the naval authorities to send the Sabine there to protect our commerce and fishing interests, and so valuable were her services considered by the people of Portland and vicinity, that they induced Mr. Welles to retain her at that port until the threatened danger had fully passed, so that it was not until October of 1864 that Commander Lowry was fairly enabled to enter upon the organization of this important system.

It was a task fraught with many difficulties, some at first that seemed insurmountable, but by degrees, marked with patience and faith, aided by his humane and capable subordinate officers and instructors, Commander Lowry brought order out of a chaotic mass of humanity, and eventually had the inestimable satisfaction and pleasure of witnessing and experiencing the perfect success that had crowned his arduous labors.

Continual drafts are being made upon the ship for the more experienced and advanced of the boys to supply, in a measure, the deficiencies that occur in the various United States naval squadrons throughout the globe, so at present there are but 279 on board, but these are advancing in their studies at a rate that promises the most flattering results. This body is divided into thirteen sections, consisting of from eighteen to twenty-five boys each; these sections have first, second and third captains, who are selected from the most advanced boys, with a view of their superiority as disciplinarians and assistant instructors, and these bear the honorary title of "cadets;" they have charge of the residue of their section, and are in a measure responsible to the officer commanding them for their conduct and cleanliness. These sections are each daily drilled, alternating in a manner that weekly ensures every boy in the ship receiving instruction in all the minutiæ of man-of-war details, including rigging and unrigging masts and yards, bending and unbending sails, knotting, splicing, strapping blocks, heaving the lead, steering, making signals, pointing, grafting, weaving mats, making gaskets, reefing, furling, using muskets, pistols and cutlasses, exercising great guns, target firing, pulling oars, &c., &c. In addition thereto, schoolmasters assigned to each school, agreeable to department orders, instruct them in the rudiments of education, embracing reading, writing, geography and arithmetic, including navigation and other necessary branches that may suggest themselves to the experienced mind of the commanding officer. A black board, hung conspicuously on the school deck every morning, previous to "quarters," notifies each section of their respective studies and duties for the day. From morning to afternoon these change, or alternate, in the manner above referred to. To-day they were as follows:—

MORNING.	AFTERNOON.
Section.	*Section.*
1..Howitzer.	1..Matting.
2..Boating.	2..Lead and compass.
3..Boating.	3..Knotting and splicing.
4..Nomenclature.	4..Sword and rifles.
5..Gunnery.	5..Howitzer.
6..Writing.	6..Boating.
7..School.	7..Boating.
8..School.	8..Nomenclature.
9..Matting (sword mats).	9..Gunnery.
10..Lead and compass.	10..Writing.
11..Knotting and splicing.	11..School.
12..Sword and rifles.	12..School.
13..Ship's duties.	13..Matting.

In obedience to an order dated January 1st, 1867, the following is the general organization of studies and exercises:—

In charge of mess clothing and general superintendence, Commander R. B. Lowry; Acting Master G. D. Newcomb, assistant to commander.

School.—Lieutenant Commander H. De H. Manley, instructor in navigation and ordnance; Acting Ensign E. R. Warren, assistant instructor; Chaplain W. A. Hitchcock, instructor in ethics, history, &c.; schoolmaster E. Alender, instructor in arithmetic, history and geography; Adjutants S. Seabury, J. C. Montgomery, C. W. Brown, assistants.

Infantry Instructor.—Commander R. B. Lowry.

Battalion Drill.—Acting Master G. D. Newcomb, instructor; Acting Ensign J. C. Oatley; Mates H. E. Jepson, C. B. Magruder, W. H. Robinson, T. H. Ridgate, E. C. Gillespie, and J. Rounds, Jr., assistant instructors.

Swords and Rifles.—Acting Master G. D. Newcomb, Instructor; Mate H. E. Jepson, Adjutant R. Ferris, Assistant Instructors.

Howitzer.—Acting Ensign J. C. Oatley, Instructor; Mate C. B. Magruder, Adjutant C. T. Graef, Assistant Instructors.

Great Guns, Target Practice and Gun Nomenclature.—Commander R. B. Lowry, instructor; Lieutenant Commander H. De H. Manley, Acting Ensign E. R. Warren, Gunner G. Edmonds, Mates T. H. Ridgate, W. H. Robinson, Adjutants E. Myers and O. C. Knauer, Assistant Instructors.

General Police and Discipline.—Lieutenant Commander H. De H. Manley and presiding officer of Board of Examiners.

Seamanship.—Acting Masters, B. S. Melville and E. B. Hussey. Boatswain, T. S. Collier instructor in knotting, splicing and use of marling spike, exercising on yards and blowing calls. Mate, J. Rounds, Jr. Adjutants L. M. Meisner and S. A. W. Pierce, assistant instructors. Petty officers and seamen to be detailed as instructors.

Compass and Lead Line, Steering, &c.—Mate E. C. Gillespie and Adjutant W. A. Falling, instructors.

Exercises in Boat Rowing and Sailing.—Lieutenant Commander, H. De H. Manley, Acting Ensign, J. C. Oatley, Mates, H. E. Jepson, J. Rounds, C. B. Magruder, W. H. Robinson, E. C. Gillespie, T. B. Ridgate and six coxswains.

Palm and Needle.—G. W. Franklin, instructor. D. L. Worsley, assistant.

The boys, under the direction of their "cadet" captains, respond to the call of their instructors in these branches with an alacrity and cheerful willingness that speaks volumes in praise of the system as here developed, and completely puts to shame and overwhelms with confusion those persistent abusers (some occupying important positions under the government) who have at all times endeavored to stab it to death. To those who are thus maliciously inclined your reporter, *en passant*, respectfully recommends any morning this spring at "quarters," or immediately thereafter, a dose of "Lowry and Sabine," and, his word for it, any lingering hatred they may retain will be thoroughly eradicated from their system.

Regularity and method are the governing words on board the Sabine, and to give your readers an idea of the thorough instruction and prompt obedience of the "apprentices" necessary to its consummation, and that their whole time, so far, as practicable is devoted to the object of their enlistment, I append the "daily routine" of this vessel, as copied from a neatly written notice hung in a prominent position near the wardroom:—

At daylight all hands called, apprentices wash, cadets report and officers of the day report to officer of the deck.

7 A. M. "Over mastheads."	1 P. M. "Over mastheads."
7:20 A. M. Formation for breakfast; inspection.	1:10 P. M. Formation for exercises.
7:30 A. M. Breakfast.	1:15 P. M. Usual routine.
7:50 A. M. Retreat.	2 P. M. Signal exchange for drills.
8 A. M. Blacking shoes until 9.	2:45. Retreat from exercises; recreation until 4:20 P. M.
9 A. M. Cleaning bright-work.	5 P. M. Supper.
9:20 A. M. Retreat from do.	5:20 P. M. Retreat from do.
9:30 A. M. Quarters for inspection.	6 P. M. "Over mastheads."
10:15 A. M. Exchange of drills.	6:30 P. M. Battalion drill or boats or sails until 7.
11 A. M. Retreat from exercises.	7 P. M. Recitation—"Pipe Down Hammocks."
11:55 A. M. Formation for dinner.	9 P. M. Signal—All apprentices on bertadeck; "turn in."
12 M. Dinner.	
12:20 P.M. Retreat from do.	9:30 P. M. "Silence."

The officer of the day will see that the routine is strictly carried out, and that the signals are made at the proper time. No chance whatever will be made, under any circumstances, without permission having first been obtained from the executive officer. There is attached to the vessel a steam launch, so that those "apprentices" who show an aptitude for it are now instructed in the rudiments of steam engineering. This system of training is under the immediate supervision of Commander Lowry, who devotes much of spare time to this object.

It would, perhaps, among this promising body of naval seamen in embryo, be unjust to name particular ones as possessing peculiar excellencies, but your reporter would be derelict in his duty did he not refer to bright face Charlie Graef, whose father was a major in one of the New York regiments during the late war. Commander Lowry pointedly remarked that "he is a true born sailor, right from stem to stern." Charlie is apt at all ship's duties, and is zealously applying himself to the various studies taught on board, that he may be one of the successful applicants to the Naval Academy. Success to you, Charlie, and may your eye never lose its brightness, nor your countenance ever be any sadder than it was this morning!

The annexed regulations for the enlistment and government of apprentice boys for the navy emanate from the Department at Washington:—

1. The greatest care must be exercised by the enlisting officer in selecting and entering apprentices for the navy, under the subjoined instructions, issued for his guidance; and he will be held to a rigid accountability for any violation of them.

2. He will personally examine each candidate in orthography, reading, writing and arithmetic, and no candidate is to be received or accepted who cannot spell correctly words of two, three and four syllables; read with comparative correctness and ease; write legibly; answer questions from multiplication table, and cipher in addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of whole numbers.

3. He will not enlist a boy without the consent of his parent or guardian, which consent shall appear by the signature of such parent or guardian to the shipping articles, and by an acknowledgment of consent, made in duplicate, in the presence of, and certified by a justice of the peace or other proper authority, one of which acknowledgments shall be transmitted to the Bureau of Navigation, and the other transferred, with the pay account of the boy, to the vessel in which he is to serve.

4. He will enlist no boy who is less than thirteen or more than eighteen years of age, and will report at the end of each week all enlistments he may have made to the Bureau of Navigation.

5. He will require written testimonials of good character and assurances that the candidate has never been convicted of any crime nor guilty of any moral delinquency. He will also satisfy himself that the boy is willing and desirous of entering the naval service for a profession, and that neither threats nor force have been used by parents or guardians to make him consent to enlist as a "naval apprentice."

6. He will satisfy himself that the persons applying with the candidates are the real parents or legal guardians; and, in case of the latter, will require the necessary certificates from the orphans' court or other proper authority.

7. He will inform the parents or guardians that no allotments nor allowances of money from the boys' pay are permitted to be given to them or any other persons, and that no advance pay will be given to the boys.

8. He will make no promises that the apprentices shall be officers, but will inform all candidates that they have equal chances to compete for the annual appointments at the Naval Academy.

9. The Examining Surgeon will be very careful in his examinations of the candidates, as it is the determination of the department to receive none but boys who give promise of the best physical development. He will accept no one who has the slightest defect in sight hearing or limb, or who is liable to any disease. A constitutional fitness or unfitness for the hardships and changes of a sea life is to be held in great weight. The continual change from growing youth to manhood must be duly considered; the teeth in all cases should be good; in fine, it is required that each boy should be as perfect as possible in structure and non-liability to any constitutional disease.

10. Boys, on first presenting